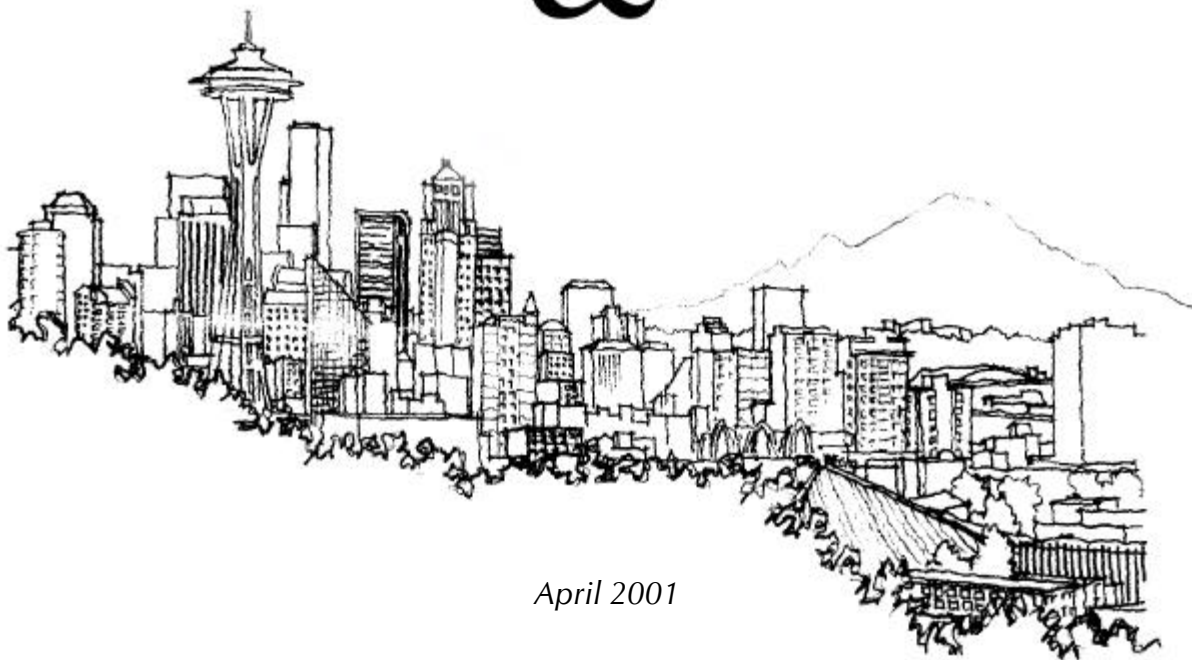


Seattle View Protection Policies

Volume Two:

Space Needle View Inventory & Assessment



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View Inventory and Assessment

The view inventory and assessment is intended to provide a framework for determining significant view resources for Seattle. The goal of this report is to present the information in a clear and usable format for a fair and reasonable approach to determining protected views and selecting viewpoints.

This project begins with the Space Needle, a City of Seattle Landmark. While Seattle has a variety of public places with views of the Space Needle, this task involved creating not only a list of sites that offered specific degrees of view of the structure but also places that offered some form of viewing amenities. Using this premise, the extent of the Space Needle view is as important as from where it is viewed.

Documenting “ideal” viewpoints can be a very subjective process; we have tried to create a process that lends some objectivity. In developing an approach for assessing Space Needle views, view source information was gathered to establish “viewing standards.” These standards were then used for assessing the view of the structure and from where to enjoy the view. Tools employed for both inventorying views and building assessment criteria included talking with local residents and park users, reviewing promotional brochures, talking with professional photographers, and interviewing Seattle Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) staff to determine what are the favorite places to view the Space

Needle and why. A survey was also conducted of where tourism companies promote the best views of the Space Needle.

*This report is divided into four sections. **Section I** addresses the Space Needle view inventory and assessment methodology. This section lays out the framework for collecting the inventory data and assessment reviews. For clarity, a glossary of view terms is located at the end of this section. **Section II** discusses the inventory results based on the assessment methodology. **Section III** provides a summary matrix of the inventory results along with individual site reviews and illustrations of the public places considered. **Section IV** discusses possible mitigation options for public sites where views of the Space Needle would be degraded by future development. Graphics, 3-D modeling, and photographs are used to illustrate points throughout the report. Three dimensional examples are used to illustrate the future development potential based on current zoning. They are for discussion purposes only and do not represent actual building designs.*

This report serves as a basis for Phase 1 of the Seattle View Protection Policy and Code Amendments Recommendations.